



Recovering from one hurricane. Preparing for the next.

A report from Congressman Clay Shaw

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515
Official Business



Clay Shaw
M.C.
PRSRT STD

This mailing was prepared, published and mailed at taxpayer expense.

Looking Ahead: Preparing for Hurricanes in the Future

Shaw Introduces National Catastrophe Bill

The billions in damages caused by Wilma, Katrina and other major hurricanes are driving up the cost of home insurance, and threaten to make it unaffordable for many families. Clay Shaw and Congresswoman Ginny Brown-Waite (FL-05) introduced the Homeowner's Insurance Protection Act to reduce home insurance costs for families and create a national catastrophe fund for future disaster costs.

Improving Hurricane Preparation

Congressman Clay Shaw is working on legislation to make Florida better prepared for hurricanes in the future.

- Shaw introduced a bill reducing the cost for power companies to put above-ground lines underground to protect them from wind and reduce power outages.
- Clay Shaw is working to ensure Florida's agriculture producers are protected—he was an original co-sponsor of the Agriculture Hurricane Recovery Act of 2005 to help agribusinesses in federally declared disaster areas recover from the 2005 hurricane season.
- He supports a state proposal requiring alternative power sources for gas stations so they can pump gasoline even when power is knocked out.



Improving Forecasting Capabilities

Congressman Shaw helped pass a \$21 million funding increase for the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). Funding includes \$837 million for the National Weather Service, including \$500,000 to hire no less than four new hurricane forecasters at the National Hurricane Center in South Florida.

Save this card for easy access to important contact information in the event of an emergency.

For more hurricane resources, visit Clay Shaw's official website at <http://shaw.house.gov>

Congressman Clay Shaw focuses on Wilma recovery.



South Florida was ravaged by Hurricane Wilma—the damage caused made her one of the most expensive hurricanes in American history. The costs for rebuilding after Wilma add heavily to the burden our region has already suffered from hurricanes in the last two years.

As Chairman of the Florida Congressional delegation, Congressman Clay Shaw is leading efforts to secure federal funding for rebuilding, and tax relief to help our region recover.

Federal emergency relief for rebuilding

To help homeowners and small businesses, Clay Shaw requested that President Bush designate Broward and Palm Beach Counties eligible for 100% reimbursement from FEMA for reconstruction costs. With other members of the Florida delegation, he is working to secure additional emergency funding to help rebuild our communities.

Congressman Shaw continues to work with FEMA to make sure that South Florida residents and communities are reimbursed, with special attention to debris removal in gated communities.

Tax relief to help recovery

Congressman Shaw is working on legislation to help victims of Wilma to rebuild homes, lives and businesses. His proposal passed the House, and will help our communities rebuild.

Among other provisions, Shaw’s bill will:

- Waive penalties for withdrawing money from retirement plans in certain cases when victims need the money to recover.
- Allows individuals in disaster areas to fully deduct losses caused by Hurricane Wilma. (Congressman Shaw reminds hurricane victims to take steps to document damaged property.)
- Temporarily waive limits for corporate charitable giving to increase relief for victims of Hurricane Wilma.



Congressman Shaw and West Palm Beach Mayor Lois Frankel, shown here, stand in front of the generator Shaw secured for the City in the hours following Hurricane Wilma.

Important hurricane emergency and relief contacts:

FEMA: 1-800-621-FEMA (3362)

Broward County Emergency Operations Center: (954) 831-4000

Palm Beach County Emergency Operations Center: (561) 233-3500

Broward County American Red Cross: (954) 797-3800

Palm Beach County American Red Cross Headquarters: (561) 833-7711

South Palm Beach County American Red Cross: (561) 994-2060

North Palm Beach County American Red Cross: (561) 622-8003

Congressman Clay Shaw
District Offices

Broward County
(954) 522-1800

Palm Beach County
(561) 832-3007